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Our ref: KON-1858

Client's ref: P6363-001-0000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: R. TAKAHASHI et al: Art Unit: 1752

Appln. No. : 10/797,870 :
Filed : March 10, 2004 : Examiner: B. L. Gilliam
Title : LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE:
MATERIAL AND PRINTING
METHOD :

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DECLARATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S i r:

I, Rieko Takahashi, hereby declare and say as follows:

1. I presented the Declarations dated March 1, 2006 and September 21, 2005 in this application.

2. I am aware that the Examiner has taken the position that the printing plate of Inoue (EP 1145848) having a PET support will inherently exhibit a transmission density of 0.5-1.2. Tests have been performed and are reported herein to demonstrate that Inoue does not inherently exhibit this transmission density even when the support is PET. Additionally, tests have been run to show that the Inoue material doesn't meet the glossiness limitation. These tests were performed by me or under my direct supervision and control.
3. Sample 5A was prepared in accordance with Sample 5 in Table 2 of Inoue as described in beginning in par. 179 of Inoue. The printing plate precursor of Sample 5 contained an aluminum substrate as explained in par. 183 of Inoue, however, the aluminum substrate was replaced with a polyethylene terephthalate (PET) film support having a transmission density of 0.04.

4. Sample 5B was prepared like Sample 5A, except that it was provided with underlayer 2 and hydrophilic layer 1, the chemical composition of which is recited in Tables 2 and 3 on pages 43 and 44 of this Application. Additionally, polymer 1 used in the heat-sensitive layer for Sample 5A was replaced with 14.23 grams of paraffin wax emulsion H808.
5. Both Samples 5A and 5B were tested for transmission density and glossiness in accordance with this Application. The results are reported below.

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Transmission Density</u>	<u>Glossiness</u>
5A	0.05	20.0
5B	0.80	5.3

6. As can be seen, the transmission density of Sample 5A, is that of the substrate only. Sample 5B, with the hydrophilic layer and undercoat between the hydrophilic layer and substrate, have a transmission density greater than the substrate alone.

7. Also, as can be seen, the change of the polymer also resulted in the change of the glossiness.
8. I have studied Inoue and am of the opinion that Inoue does not motivate one of skill in the art to make the changes that I made in the compositions of Sample 5A to make Sample 5B.
9. I further am of the opinion that the results of Sample 5B are unexpected in light of the teaching of Inoue.

It is declared by undersigned that all statements made herein of undersigned's own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code; and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this Application or any patent issuing thereon.

Rieko Takahashi
Rieko Takahashi

Dated: This 11th day of May, 2006.

DCL/mr